

TSCA Section 5(a)(3) Determination for Premanufacture Notice (PMN) P-18-0073

Number: P-18-0073

TSCA Section 5(a)(3) Determination: The chemical substance is not likely to present an unreasonable risk (5(a)(3)(C))

Chemical Name:

Specific: Sulfuric acid, ammonium salt (1:?)

Conditions of Use (intended, known, or reasonably foreseen)¹:

Intended conditions of use (specific): Manufacture for use as a [claimed CBI], [claimed CBI], FIFRA inert ingredient, an anti-scalant, and a chlorine stabilizer, consistent with the manufacturing, processing, use, distribution, and disposal information described in the PMN.

Known conditions of use: Applying such factors as described in footnote 1, EPA evaluated whether there are known conditions of use and found none.

Reasonably foreseen conditions of use: Applying such factors as described in footnote 1, EPA has identified, based on a patent search, the following reasonably foreseen conditions: manufacture, processing, or use of the new chemical substance as a cleaning agent for oil-based stains, as a processing aid for scrubbing ammonia and hydrogen sulfide from the acid stream, and in fire resistant unsaturated polyesters.

Summary: The chemical substance is not likely to present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment, without consideration of costs or other nonrisk factors, including an unreasonable risk to a potentially exposed or susceptible subpopulation identified as relevant by the Administrator under the conditions of use, based on the risk assessment presented below and the terms of the proposed Significant New Use Rule (SNUR) signed by EPA.² Although EPA

¹ Under TSCA § 3(4), the term “conditions of use” means “the circumstances, as determined by the Administrator, under which a chemical substance is intended, known, or reasonably foreseen to be manufactured, processed, distributed in commerce, used, or disposed of.” In general, EPA considers the intended conditions of use of a new chemical substance to be those identified in the section 5(a) notification. Known conditions of use include activities within the United States that result from manufacture that is exempt from PMN submission requirements. Reasonably foreseen conditions of use are future circumstances, distinct from known or intended conditions of use, under which the Administrator expects the chemical substance to be manufactured, processed, distributed, used, or disposed of. The identification of “reasonably foreseen” conditions of use will necessarily be a case-by-case determination and will be highly fact-specific. Reasonably foreseen conditions of use will not be based on hypotheticals or conjecture. EPA’s identification of conditions of use includes the expectation of compliance with federal and state laws, such as worker protection standards or disposal restrictions, unless case-specific facts indicate otherwise. Accordingly, EPA will apply its professional judgment, experience, and discretion when considering such factors as evidence of current use of the new chemical substance outside the United States, evidence that the PMN substance is sufficiently likely to be used for the same purposes as existing chemical substances that are structurally analogous to the new chemical substance, and conditions of use identified in an initial PMN submission that the submitter omits in a revised PMN. The sources EPA uses to identify reasonably foreseen conditions of use include searches of internal confidential EPA PMN databases (containing use information on analogue chemicals), other U.S. government public sources, the National Library of Medicine’s Hazardous Substances Data Bank (HSDB), the Chemical Abstract Service STN Platform, REACH Dossiers, technical encyclopedias (e.g., Kirk-Othmer and Ullmann), and Internet searches.

² Reasonably foreseen conditions of use subject to a proposed SNUR are not likely to present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment. Based on EPA’s experience, it is the Agency’s judgment that a new use would not commence during the pendency of a proposed SNUR because web posting of a proposed SNUR serves as

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estimated that the new chemical substance could be very persistent, the chemical substance has low potential for bioaccumulation, such that repeated exposures are not expected to be cumulative. Based on physical/chemical properties and test data on analogous chemical substances, EPA estimates that the chemical substance has low environmental hazard and potential for the following human health hazards: irritation and corrosion, and liver, kidney, lung, and gastrointestinal effects. The PMN describes conditions of use that mitigate human health risks. Therefore, EPA concludes that the new chemical substance is not likely to present unreasonable risk to human health or the environment under the intended conditions of use.

As set forth below, the information available to EPA is sufficient to permit the Agency to conduct a reasoned evaluation of the health and environmental effects of the chemical substance under the conditions of use that are not subject to the proposed SNUR, in order to determine that the chemical substance is not likely to present an unreasonable risk under those conditions of use. As such, EPA does not need to impose testing requirements to conduct this evaluation. Whether testing is needed to evaluate the effects of the intended, known, or reasonably foreseen conditions of use of a chemical substance subject to a PMN is determined on a case-by-case basis. To the extent that testing may be necessary to conduct a reasoned evaluation of the health or environmental effects of the reasonably foreseen conditions of use that are subject to the proposed SNUR, EPA will make the appropriate determination if a SNUN is submitted following finalization of the SNUR.

EPA found no known conditions of use, assessed the intended conditions of use, and addressed reasonably foreseen conditions of use by proposing a SNUR. Therefore, EPA determines the new chemical substance is not likely to present unreasonable risk to human health or the environment.

Fate: Environmental fate is the determination of which environmental compartment(s) a chemical moves to, the expected residence time in the environmental compartment(s) and removal and degradation processes. Environmental fate is an important factor in determining exposure and thus in determining whether a new chemical substance may present an unreasonable risk. EPA estimated physical/chemical and fate properties of the anion (sulfate or bisulfate) and cation (ammonium) using data for analogous chemical substances and data submitted on the new chemical substance. In wastewater treatment, the cation is expected to be removed with an efficiency of 40% via biological uptake, and the anion is expected to be removed with an efficiency of 90% via biological uptake. Removal of the cation by

the cut-off date for a significant new use. Therefore, manufacturers and processors would not commence a prohibited new use that would be legally required to cease upon the finalization of the SNUR. Once a SNUR is final and effective, no manufacturer or processor – including the PMN submitter – may undertake the conditions of use identified as a significant new use of the PMN substance in the SNUR. EPA must first evaluate the new use in accordance with the requirements of TSCA Section 5 and (a) either conclude that the new use is not likely to present an unreasonable risk under the conditions of use; or (b) take appropriate action under section 5(e) or 5(f). If EPA were not to finalize the proposed SNUR, then that decision would be based on information and data provided to the Agency during the comment period demonstrating that the reasonably foreseen conditions of use subject to the proposed SNUR are not likely to present an unreasonable risk. Under either scenario, the reasonably foreseen condition of use is not likely present an unreasonable risk.

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biodegradation is expected to be moderate, and removal of the anion by biodegradation is expected to be high. Sorption of the cation and the anion to sludge, soil, and sediment is expected to be low. Migration of the cation and the anion to groundwater is expected to be rapid due to low sorption to soil and sediment. Due to low estimated vapor pressure and Henry's law constant, the cation and the anion are expected to undergo negligible volatilization to air. Overall, these estimates indicate that the cation has low potential to volatilize to air, has high potential to migrate to groundwater, and is unlikely to be removed in wastewater treatment, and the estimates indicate that the anion has low potential to volatilize to air, has high potential to migrate to groundwater, and is likely to be removed in wastewater treatment.

Persistence³: Persistence is relevant to whether a new chemical substance is likely to present an unreasonable risk because chemicals that are not degraded in the environment at rates that prevent substantial buildup in the environment, and thus increase potential for exposure, may present a risk if the substance presents a hazard to human health or the environment. EPA estimated degradation half-lives of the anion (sulfate or bisulfate) and cation (ammonium) using data for analogous chemical substances and data submitted on the new chemical substance. These estimates indicate that the cation and anion are expected to have limited persistence in aerobic environments (e.g., surface water) and may be very persistent in anaerobic environments (e.g., sediment). However, based on the high water solubility for this substance, it is not likely that this substance will accumulate in anaerobic environments (e.g., sediment).

Bioaccumulation⁴: Bioaccumulation is relevant to whether a new chemical substance is likely to present an unreasonable risk because substances that bioaccumulate in aquatic and/or terrestrial species pose the potential for elevated exposures to humans and other organisms via food chains. EPA estimated the potential for the cation and anion to bioaccumulate using data on analogous chemical substances and data submitted on the new chemical substance. EPA expects both the cation and anion to have low bioaccumulation potential.

Human Health Hazard⁵: Human health hazard is relevant to whether a new chemical substance is likely to present an unreasonable risk because the significance of the risk is dependent upon

³ Persistence: A chemical substance is considered to have limited persistence if it has a half-life in water, soil or sediment of less than 2 months or there are equivalent or analogous data. A chemical substance is considered to be persistent if it has a half-life in water, soil or sediments of greater than 2 months but less than or equal to 6 months or if there are equivalent or analogous data. A chemical substance is considered to be very persistent if it has a half-life in water, soil or sediments of greater than 6 months or there are equivalent or analogous data. (64 FR 60194; November 4, 1999)

⁴ Bioaccumulation: A chemical substance is considered to have a low potential for bioaccumulation if there are bioconcentration factors (BCF) or bioaccumulation factors (BAF) of less than 1,000 or there are equivalent or analogous data. A chemical substance is considered to be bioaccumulative if there are BCFs or BAFs of 1,000 or greater and less than or equal to 5,000 or there are equivalent or analogous data. A chemical substance is considered to be very bioaccumulative if there are BCFs or BAFs of 5,000 or greater or there are equivalent or analogous data. (64 FR 60194; November 4 1999)

⁵ A chemical substance is considered to have low human health hazard if effects are observed in animal studies with a No Observed Adverse Effect Level (NOAEL) equal to or greater than 1,000 mg/kg/day or if there are equivalent data on analogous chemical substances; a chemical substance is considered to have moderate human health hazard if effects are observed in animal studies with a NOAEL less than 1,000 mg/kg/day or if there are equivalent data on analogous chemical substances; a chemical substance is considered to have high human health hazard if there is evidence of adverse effects in humans or conclusive evidence of severe effects in animal studies with a NOAEL of

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both the hazard (or toxicity) of the chemical substance and the extent of exposure to the substance. EPA estimated the human health hazard of this chemical substance based on its estimated physical/chemical properties, data submitted on the new chemical substance, and by comparing it to structurally analogous chemical substances for which there is information on human health hazard. Based on physical/chemical properties, absorption of the new chemical substance is expected to be poor as the neat material, and when in solution, good through the skin, the gastrointestinal tract, and lungs. EPA identified skin, eye, respiratory, and gastrointestinal tract irritation and corrosion as hazards, based on the pH and ammonium content of the new chemical substance. Liver, kidney, lung, and gastrointestinal effects were also identified as hazards based on analogue data. Submitted tests on a mixture containing the new chemical substance reported that the test substance was corrosive in rabbits, negative for sensitization, and caused discoloration of the liver, kidneys and spleen in an acute oral study with an LD50 of 1750 mg/kg. No effects were observed in an acute dermal study, and irregular respiration was reported in an acute inhalation study with an LC50 > 2.09 mg/l. EPA identified an inhalation NOAEC of 300 mg/ m³ based on no effects at the only tested dose in a 14-day rat study for an analogue and an oral NOAEL of 270 mg/kg-day based on liver and kidney effects in a 52 week dietary study in rats for an analogue. These levels were used to derive exposure route- and population-specific points of departure for quantitative risk assessment, described below.

Environmental Hazard⁶: Environmental hazard is relevant to whether a new chemical substance is likely to present unreasonable risk because the significance of the risk is dependent upon both the hazard (or toxicity) of the chemical substance and the extent of exposure to the substance. EPA estimated environmental hazard of this new chemical substance using hazard data on an analogous chemical (CASRN: 7783-20-2). Acute toxicity values estimated for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and algae are all > 100 mg/L. Chronic toxicity values estimated for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and algae are all > 10 mg/L. These toxicity values indicate that the new chemical substance is expected to have low environmental hazard. Application of assessment

less than or equal to 10 mg/kg/day or if there are equivalent data on analogous chemical substances. EPA may also use Benchmark Dose Levels (BMDL) derived from benchmark dose (BMD) modeling as points of departure for toxic effects. See <https://www.epa.gov/bmds/what-benchmark-dose-software-bmds>. Using this approach, a BMDL is associated with a benchmark response, for example a 5 or 10 % incidence of effect. The aforementioned characterizations of hazard (low, medium, high) would also apply to BMDLs. In the absence of animal data on a chemical or analogous chemical substance, EPA may use other data or information such as from in vitro assays, chemical categories (e.g., Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, 2014 Guidance on Grouping of Chemicals, Second Edition. ENV/JM/MONO(2014)4. Series on Testing & Assessment No. 194. Environment Directorate, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, Paris, France. ([http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=env/jm/mono\(2014\)4&doclanguage=en](http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=env/jm/mono(2014)4&doclanguage=en))), structure-activity relationships, and/or structural alerts to support characterizing human health hazards.

⁶ A chemical substance is considered to have low ecotoxicity hazard if the Fish, Daphnid and Algae LC50 values are greater than 100 mg/L, or if the Fish and Daphnid chronic values (ChVs) are greater than 10.0 mg/L, or there are not effects at saturation (occurs when water solubility of a chemical substance is lower than an effect concentration), or the log Kow value exceeds QSAR cut-offs. A chemical substance is considered to have moderate ecotoxicity hazard if the lowest of the Fish, Daphnid or Algae LC50s is greater than 1 mg/L and less than 100 mg/L, or where the Fish or Daphnid ChVs are greater than 0.1 mg/L and less than 10.0 mg/L. A chemical substance is considered to have high ecotoxicity hazard, or if either the Fish, Daphnid or Algae LC50s are less than 1 mg/L, or any Fish or Daphnid ChVs is less than 0.1 mg/L (Sustainable Futures <https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-futures/sustainable-futures-p2-framework-manual>).

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factors of 5 and 10 to acute and chronic toxicity values, respectively, results in acute and chronic concentrations of concern of 20 mg/L (20,000 ppb) and 1 mg/L (1,000 ppb), respectively.

Exposure: The exposure to a new chemical substance is potentially relevant to whether a new chemical substance is likely to present unreasonable risks because the significance of the risk is dependent upon both the hazard (or toxicity) of the chemical substance and the extent of exposure to the substance.

EPA estimates occupational exposure and environmental release of new chemical substances under the intended conditions of use described in the PMNs using ChemSTEER (Chemical Screening Tool for Exposures and Environmental Releases; <https://www.epa.gov/tsca-screening-tools/chemsteer-chemical-screening-tool-exposures-and-environmental-releases>). EPA uses EFAST (the Exposure and Fate Assessment Screening Tool; <https://www.epa.gov/tsca-screening-tools/e-fast-exposure-and-fate-assessment-screening-tool-version-2014>) to estimate general population, consumer, and environmental exposures.

EPA considers workers to be a potentially exposed or susceptible subpopulation (PESS) on the basis of greater exposure potential compared to the general population. EPA also considers PESS in conducting general population drinking water exposures by evaluating risks associated with water intake rates for multiple age groups, ranging from infants to adults. EPA considers consumers of specific products to be a potentially exposed or susceptible subpopulation on the basis of greater exposure potential compared to the general population who do not use specific products.

For this new chemical assessment, EPA assessed exposure to workers via dermal and inhalation exposure. Releases to water and air were estimated. Exposure to the general population was assessed via drinking water. Exposure to the general population via inhalation was not assessed because releases to air are expected to be negligible (below modeling thresholds). Exposures to consumers were assessed for dermal and inhalation exposure.

For this new chemical assessment, EPA also assessed worker and consumer exposures to the new chemical substance under the reasonably foreseen use as a cleaning agent for oil-based stains assuming a concentration of 20% in formulation.

Risk Characterization: EPA characterizes risks to human health and the environment by comparing the potential hazards and exposures for the chemical substance, estimated as described above. EPA applies a margin of exposure approach to calculate potential human health risks of new chemicals. A benchmark (acceptable) margin of exposure is derived by applying uncertainty factors for the following types of extrapolations: intra-species extrapolation ($UF_H = 10$ to account for variation in sensitivity among the human population), inter-species extrapolation ($UF_A = 10$ to account for extrapolating from experimental animals to humans) and LOAEL-to-NOAEL extrapolation ($UF_L = 10$ to account for using a LOAEL when a NOAEL is not available). Hence, in the New Chemicals Program, a benchmark MOE is typically 100 and 1000 when NOAELs and LOAELs, respectively, are used to identify hazard. When allometric scaling or pharmacokinetic modeling is used to derive an effect level, the UF_H may be reduced to 3, for a benchmark MOE of 30. The benchmark MOE is used to compare to the MOE calculated

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by comparing the toxicity NOAEL or LOAEL to the estimated exposure concentrations. When the calculated MOE is equal to or exceeds the benchmark MOE, the new chemical substance is not likely to present an unreasonable risk. EPA assesses risks to workers in the absence of personal protective equipment such as gloves and respirators and if risks are preliminarily identified, EPA then considers whether the risks would be mitigated by the use of PPE (e.g., impervious gloves, respirator).

Risks to human health for the new chemical substance were evaluated using the points of departure (i.e., NOAEL and NOAEC) described above. Risks were identified for workers for liver, kidney, and gastrointestinal effects via dermal exposure (MOE = 48; benchmark MOE = 100). Risks were also identified for workers for pulmonary effects via inhalation exposure (MOE = 37; benchmark MOE = 100). Irritation and corrosion hazards to workers via dermal contact were also identified based on the ammonium content of the new chemical substance. Risks for these endpoints were not quantified due to a lack of dose-response for these hazards. However, exposures to workers can be mitigated by the use of appropriate PPE, including impervious gloves, eye protection, and a respirator with an assigned protection factor of 10. EPA expects that employers will require and workers will use appropriate PPE, consistent with the Safety Data Sheet prepared by the new chemical submitter, in a manner adequate to protect them.

Risks to the general population for liver and kidney effects via drinking water ingestion were not identified (MOE_{adult} = 2,077, MOE_{infant} = 498; benchmark MOE = 100). Risks to the general population from inhalation exposures were not identified because inhalation exposure is expected to be negligible.

Risks to consumers for liver, kidney, and gastrointestinal effects via dermal exposure were not identified (MOE_{dermal} = 2,250; benchmark MOE = 100). Risks to consumers for pulmonary effects via inhalation exposure were not identified (MOE_{inhalation} = 10,000; benchmark MOE = 100). Risks to consumers for irritation via inhalation and dermal exposure could not be quantified but are not expected due to the low estimated exposures.

Risks to the environment were evaluated by comparing estimated surface water concentrations with the acute and chronic concentrations of concern. Risks to the environment are not expected based on low hazard.

It is reasonably foreseen, based on patent searches, that the new chemical substance could be manufactured and processed for uses other than as described in the PMN, which might result in greater exposures. The SNUR that has been proposed for this chemical substance defines certain conditions of use as significant new uses. The proposed significant new use is any use other than the uses specified in the PMN. Conditions of use that fall under the restrictions of the proposed SNUR are not likely to present unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment because (1) those conditions of use are not likely to be commenced during the pendency of the proposed SNUR, and (2) upon finalization of the SNUR, those conditions of use would be prohibited unless and until EPA makes an affirmative determination that the significant new use is not likely to present an unreasonable risk or takes appropriate action under section 5(e) or 5(f).

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4/15/2019
Date:

/s/
Tala R. Henry, Ph.D.
Acting Deputy Director for Programs
Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics